	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/585,820	MERCOLONO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	James L. Grun	1641
The MAILING DATE of this communication apperature All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in or other appropriate comming GHTS. This application is and MPEP 1308.	n this application. If not included unication will be mailed in due course. THIS
1. This communication is responsive to <u>communication filed 2</u>		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 16, 20, 29, 22, 23, 49, 31, 51, 3		as claims 1-12, respectively.
3. \square The drawings filed on $\frac{6/\sqrt{\infty}}{2}$ are accepted by the Examine	г.	
 4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority una) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: 	been received. been received in Application	on No
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		e a reply complying with the requirements
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give		
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus	t be submitted.	
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers	on's Patent Drawing Revie	w (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date		
(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date	s Amendment / Comment o	r in the Office action of
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t		
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT		
 Attachment(s) 1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. ☑ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date 7/1/04 4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	6. ⊠ Interview S Paper No. 98), 7. ⊠ Examiner's	nformal Patent Application (PTO-152) Summary (PTO-413), /Mail Date <u>03072005</u> . s Amendment/Comment s Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Art Unit: 1641

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Catherine K. Gowen on 07 March 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 32, 36, 37, 39-42, 45, and 46 were cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer thereto.

The following listing of claims replaced all prior versions:

- -- 16. (Currently amended) A method of analyzing <u>ABO</u> blood <u>type</u> in a reverse test, comprising:
 - (a) admixing a sample of blood with first reagent red blood cells bearing A antigen and with second reagent red blood cells bearing B antigen, wherein such said admixing is performed in a single column;
 - (b) allowing incubating the admixture under conditions sufficient for agglutination to occur agglutinate;

Art Unit: 1641

(c) subjecting the <u>incubated</u> admixture in the single column to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis to determine agglutination of said first and/or second reagent red blood cells or lack thereof, and

Page 3

- (d) analyzing the visual or automated computerized imaging analysis of agglutination to determine ABO reverse type.
- 20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein one of said first or second reagent red blood cells of step (a) are distinguishably stained.
- 22. (original) The method of claim 29 wherein the column agglutination technology is a column agglutination test reaction and separation vessel in cassette form.
- 23. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 22 wherein an agglutination is determined with the automated computerized imaging system is employed to interpret an agglutination result.
- 29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the single column subjected to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis is selected from the group consisting of tube and column agglutination technology.
- 31. (Currently amended) A method of simultaneous ABO antibody testing of a blood sample using two cell populations, comprising:

Art Unit: 1641

(a) admixing a sample of blood with a first group of reagent red blood cells bearing a first antigen and a second group of reagent red blood cells bearing a second antigen, wherein one group of said reagent red blood cells are distinguishably stained, such and wherein said admixing is performed in a single column;

Page 4

- (b) allowing incubating the admixture under conditions sufficient for agglutination to occur agglutinate;
- (c) subjecting the <u>incubated</u> admixture in the single column to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis to determine agglutination of said first and/or second group of reagent red blood cells or lack thereof; and
- (d) analyzing the visual or automated computerized imaging analysis of agglutination to determine ABO type anti-first and/or second antigen antibodies in the sample.
- 33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 32 31 wherein the single column subjected to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis is selected from the group consisting of tube and column agglutination technology.
- 34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the column agglutination technology is a column agglutination test reaction and separation vessel in cassette form.

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Application/Control Number: 09/585,820 Page 5

Art Unit: 1641

35. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 34 wherein an agglutination is determined with the automated computerized imaging system is employed to interpret an agglutination result.

- 43. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 42 method of claim 31 wherein the first and second groups of reagent red blood cells are independently selected from the group consisting of groups A1, A2, B, O, D, C, E, c, e, M, N, S, s, P1, Lea, Leb, K, k, Jsa, Fya, Fyb, Jka, Jkb, Lua, and or Lub.
- 49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the sample of blood is serum or plasma.
- 51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the sample of blood is serum or plasma.

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Art Unit: 1641

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James L. Grun, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571) 272-0821. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Long Le, SPE, can be contacted at (571) 272-0823.

The phone number for official facsimile transmitted communications to TC 1600, Group 1640, is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application, or requests to supply missing elements from Office communications, should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James L. Grun, Ph.D.

March 8, 2005

CHRISTOPHER L. CHIN PRIMARY EXAMINER

GROUP 1800 /64/

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3/12/05